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Hendrix College BULLETIN



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Why the Movement for \$400,000 for Hendrix College

To Arkansas Methodists and Friends of Hendrix College:

The trustees of Hendrix College have projected a movement for \$400,000 for buildings and endowment. Are they justified in this step? Certainly they are not if the need is not imperative. Some people have asked why Hendrix, having received \$300,000 endowment, is asking for an additional sum. The people have a right to know. This paper answers these questions.

a. *Buildings.*—The endowment added no buildings whatever nor has Hendrix erected any academic building in over a quarter of a century. Hendrix is like a church or a business that has outgrown its equipments. Indeed, the college is facing a serious physical problem, *that of housing its work and its students*. The college has *twice as many students, three times the class work, four times as many college students and six times as much library and laboratory equipments* to provide for as she had when the present buildings were erected. The dormitories accommodate only about one-fourth of the students. For the last three years students have gone to other institutions because they could not secure rooms at the Hendrix dormitory. Moreover, every inch of space in the main building is occupied and the college is powerless to provide absolutely necessary laboratory and recitation rooms. Besides, the college will soon be compelled to add several new teachers. But where can she put them when she does not have room for even the present force? The absolutely necessary buildings are a dormitory, science hall, infirmary, gymnasium and enlargement of the heating plant. These buildings will cost \$150,000. Failure to provide them means a severe blow to the college. It would seriously impair the efficiency of the college. No other college in Methodism of the standing of Hendrix is without these buildings. Central, Millsaps and Wofford have spent two and three times as much on buildings, Southwestern four times and Trinity, five times as much as has Hendrix. Fort Smith and Little Rock have each erected high school buildings costing over three times as much as all of the buildings on the Hendrix campus put together.

b. *Income.*—But some one says that while the people understand the building needs to be imperative, they fail to under-

stand the need of additional endowment. The explanation is simple.

The present income is entirely inadequate to meet even the elementary needs of the college. But you ask why is the income inadequate? In the first place, the running expenses of the college, like that of all other enterprises, have doubled in the last fifteen years. Churches pay two and three times as much for their pastors, while wages and salaries in all walks of life have doubled in that time. The salary of the college professor is no exception to this rule. In the second place, up to a few years ago Hendrix employed as teachers young B. A. graduates fresh from college, single men without experience, whereas today she is compelled to employ only successful educators tested by experience who have done considerable graduate work in the best universities. This fact adds at least fifty per cent to the cost of the faculty. Some of our professors have spent three years in graduate work while others have traveled and studied in Europe; and yet we are paying small salaries, only \$1,600 for head-professors. Methodist preachers are poorly paid, yet forty-five ministers of our church in Arkansas are receiving \$1,600 or more and thirty-four \$2,000 or more, including the use of a parsonage. In the third place, notwithstanding the most economical administration, the income of Hendrix is not meeting all expenses. Every time the Board puts in any improvement like the repair of the dormitories, installing a sewer or water system, or building a heating plant it is necessary to borrow money. Moreover, new buildings will add considerable expense in the form of repairs, heat, light and janitor service. Then, too, it is apparent to all that the salaries of professors will have to be increased. In the next place, the student body is rapidly growing. There are now three times as many college students as there were a decade ago. Hendrix will therefore soon be compelled to add a half dozen teachers to the faculty, four to assist in the departments of modern languages, science, mathematics, English and the social sciences; and two as heads of two new departments, Bible and Religious Education, Philosophy and Education.

Summarizing, these extra charges will call for the following additional annual expenditures:

Six new teachers	\$ 9,000
Repairs and maintenance of new buildings....	1,500
General improvements and repairs	2,000
Increase in salaries	2,500
Total	<u>\$15,000</u>



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To meet this increase in expenses the Board proposes to add \$250,000 to the endowment.

The comparative income of Hendrix and of other colleges of our church of the same standing as Hendrix will throw light on the question. The income of each Millsaps and Wofford is \$10,000 more than that of Hendrix, the income of Randolph-Macon \$15,000 more, of Southwestern \$40,000 more, and that of Trinity \$88,000 more than the income of Hendrix. Let the church and the friends of Hendrix College know that *Hendrix was better equipped in point of buildings, equipments and teaching force twenty years ago for the conditions in Arkansas at that time than she is now for the conditions of today.* Let her friends appreciate the magnitude of her mission, that hers is no less a task than the education of the Methodist ministry of Arkansas, the development of intellectual and spiritual leaders for both church and state, great lawyers, doctors, preachers, statesmen, poets, prophets, educators, social workers and business men with deep spiritual insight and large vision. The \$400,000 asked for is the smallest sum possible for efficient service. It would multiply the usefulness and efficiency of the college manyfold. Indeed in many respects Hendrix is the greatest educational opportunity in Arkansas. This fact has been signally recognized twice by the General Education Board of New York City. Arkansas Methodism is to be congratulated that she has the only institution in the state that has received this recognition.

The fight for the first \$300,000 was a battle for existence. The question at issue now is whether the college will be given the means necessary for healthy growth, so that it may render the public service required of it, or whether suffering from arrested development it will become a fossil; whether the church and friends will carry to completion the work so well begun and thus make permanent a great institution of learning, or failing to provide the means, sacrifice the labors, the prayers, and the investments of the past.

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